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Glu/B
Atty. Dkt. No. 040679-1417

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kouichi AKABORI et al.

Title: ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL SYSTEM AND
METHOD FOR AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLE WITH INTER-
VEHICLE DISTANCE CONTROL FUNCTION

Appl. No.: 10/042,195

Filing Date: 01/11/2002

Examiner: T. Nguyen

Art Unit: 3661

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

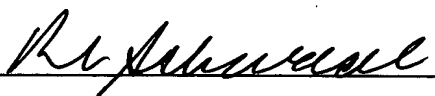
The foregoing documents came to Applicants' attention during a search of the corresponding European application. A copy of the European Search Report setting forth the portion of each reference considered relevant by the examiner is attached.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

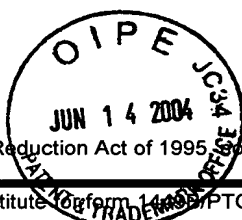
Respectfully submitted,

Date June 14, 2004

By 

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MODIFIED PTO/SB/08 (08-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for Form 1400 PTO		Complete if Known			
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: June 14, 2004 (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/042,195		
		Filing Date	01/11/2002		
		First Named Inventor	Kouichi AKABORI		
		Group Art Unit	3661		
		Examiner Name	T. Nguyen		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	040679-1417

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A1	5,850,176		KINOSHITA ET AL.	12-15-1998	
	A2	5,631,639		HIBINO ET AL.	05-20-1997	
	A3	RE 36,470		WOLL ET AL.	12-28-1999	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	A4	EP	1 060 937	A2	NISSAN MOTOR CO., LTD.	12-20-2000		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶	
	A5	P. Ioannou et al., "Intelligent Cruise Control: Theory and Experiment", Proceedings of the Conference on Decision and Control, IEEE, Vol. 3, Conf. 32, Dec. 15-17, 1993, pages 1885-1890, XP010116579.		
	A6	K. Youcef-Toumi et al., "The Application of Time Delay Control to an Intelligent Cruise Control System", Proceedings of the American Control Conference, IEEE, Vol. 2, June 24-26, 1992, pages 1743-1747, XP00343593.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.